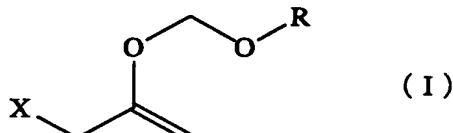


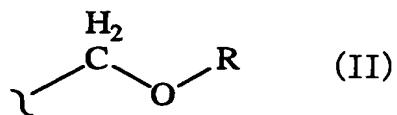
## Claims

1. A method of protecting a hydroxyl group, which comprises reacting a hydroxyl group-containing compound with a compound  
5 represented by the formula (I):



wherein R is a phenyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a benzyl group optionally having substituent(s), and X is a halogen atom,

10 in the presence of an acid catalyst to substitute the hydrogen atom of the hydroxyl group of the hydroxyl group-containing compound with a protecting group represented by the formula (II):



15 wherein R is as defined above.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein R is a phenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s).

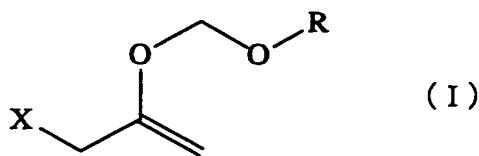
20

3. The method of claim 2, wherein R is an alkyl group.

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the acid catalyst is pyridinium p-toluenesulfonate or p-toluenesulfonic  
25 acid.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the acid catalyst is pyridinium p-toluenesulfonate.

30 6. A hydroxyl group-protecting reagent which comprises a compound represented by the formula (I):



wherein R is a phenyl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a benzyl group optionally having substituent(s), and X is a halogen atom.

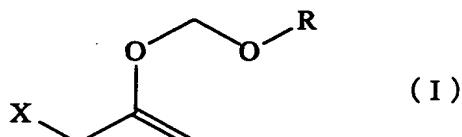
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7. The reagent of claim 6, wherein R is a phenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s).

10 8. The reagent of claim 7, wherein R is an alkyl group.

9. The reagent of claim 8, wherein R is a methyl group.

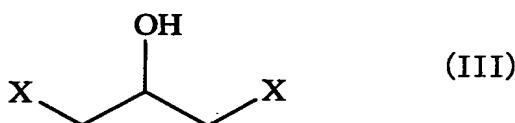
10. A method of producing a compound represented by the formula  
15 (I):



wherein R is an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), a phenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a benzyl group optionally having substituent(s), and X is a halogen atom, which

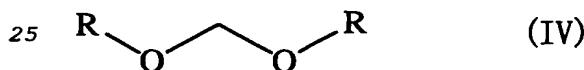
20 comprises the following Step 1 and Step 2;

Step 1: reacting a compound represented by the formula (III):



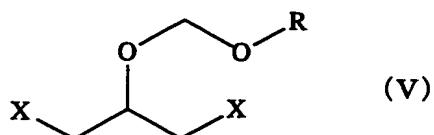
wherein X is as defined above,

with a compound represented by the formula (IV):



wherein R is as defined above,

to give a compound represented by the formula (V):

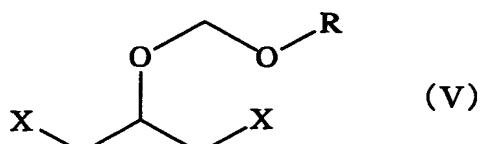


wherein each symbol is as defined above;

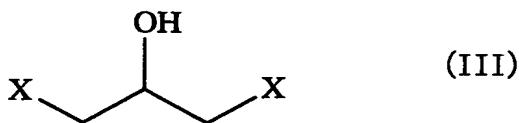
Step 2: reacting the obtained compound represented by the formula (V) in the presence of a base to give a compound  
<sup>5</sup> represented by the formula (I).

11. The method of claim 10, wherein R is a methyl group.

12. A method of producing a compound represented by the formula  
<sup>10</sup> (V):

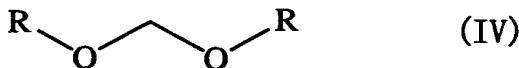


wherein R is an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), a phenyl group optionally having substituent(s) or a benzyl group optionally having substituent(s), and X is a halogen atom, which  
<sup>15</sup> comprises reacting a compound represented by the formula (III):



wherein X is as defined above,

with a compound represented by the formula (IV):



<sup>20</sup> wherein R is as defined above.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein R is a methyl group.